Gateway National Recreation Area Progresses with Transportation Studies

This posting is the second in a continuing series of updates on the progress of the Jamaica Bay Transportation Studies. The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) have initiated planning for several transportation enhancement projects in the Brooklyn and Queens portion of Gateway National Recreation Area. The projects will focus on four locations within the park: Floyd Bennett Field, Jacob Riis Park, Riis Landing, and the new NPS sites at Pennsylvania Avenue and Fountain Avenue.

In an effort to both inform the public and to solicit input regarding potential solutions and concerns within the affected areas, during the month of March and April the study team met with various agencies and elected officials to present the project and discuss the best means of addressing these sites. The study team also held two public information sessions to reach out to the general public. Representatives from the NPS, FHWA and their consultants were on hand to discuss the studies and answer questions. In addition, handouts and displays were provided regarding natural, historical and physical features that exist in the four study areas. The displays were supplemented by a presentation that ran throughout the session to fully explain the scope and purpose of the studies. The sessions were in an open house format that allowed people to come and go at any point between the opening and closing hours. During these sessions, the study team obtained a number of helpful comments from their guests.

With this information, the study team has now moved into the alternative development phase of the project. The information gained during the early scoping sessions will provide the study team with input and assistance in addressing study area concerns. Once the alternatives for the four study areas have been fully developed, the team will again turn to the agencies, elected officials, and the general public for input and guidance necessary to advance the process.

In the meantime, if you should have comments or questions about the project, please do not hesitate to contact either of the following study team representatives:

Mark Colburn

Gateway National Recreation Area

Building 69

Federal Highway Administration

Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division

21400 Ridgetop Circle

Brooklyn, NY 11234

Sterling, VA 20166

Mark Colburn@nps.gov

www.nps.gov/gate

Kevin Rose

Federal Highway Administration

21400 Ridgetop Circle

Sterling, VA 20166

Kevin.Rose@fhwa.dot.gov

www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov

Also, be sure to check this web site periodically for additional information and updates.